



## City Of Norfolk

### Annual Water Quality Report For January 1 to December 31, 2014

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the City Of Norfolk water system to provide safe drinking water.

**Para Clientes Que Hablan Español:** Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

For more information regarding this report, contact:

**DENNIS G WATTS**  
402-844-2210

If you would like to observe the decision-making processes that affect drinking water quality, please attend the regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council. If you would like to participate in the process, please contact the City Clerk to arrange to be placed on the agenda of the meeting of the City Council.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

#### **Source Water Assessment Availability:**

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) has completed the Source Water Assessment. Included in the assessment are a Wellhead Protection Area map, potential contaminant source inventory, vulnerability rating, and source water protection information. To view the Source Water Assessment or for more information please contact the person named above on this report or the NDEQ at (402) 471-6988 or go to [www.deq.state.ne.us](http://www.deq.state.ne.us).

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

#### **Sources of Drinking Water:**

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals

and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

The source of water used by City Of Norfolk is ground water.

#### **Contaminants that may be present in source water include:**

\* Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

\* Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

\* Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

\* Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

\* Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

#### **Drinking Water Health Notes:**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Infants, young children, and pregnant women are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested. Flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using your tap water will clear the line of any lead that may have leached into the water while the line was idle. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or the DHHS/Division of Public Health/Office of Drinking Water (402-471-2541).

The City Of Norfolk is required to test for the following contaminants: Coliform Bacteria, Antimony, Arsenic, Asbestos, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Cyanide, Fluoride, Lead, Mercury, Nickel, Nitrate, Nitrite, Selenium, Sodium, Thallium, Alachlor, Atrazine, Benzo(a)pyrene, Carbofuran, Chlordane, Dalapon, Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, Dibromochloropropane, Dinoseb, Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, Diquat, 2,4-D, Endothall, Endrin, Ethylene dibromide, Glyphosate, Heptachlor, Heptachlor epoxide, Hexachlorobenzene, Hexachlorocyclopentadiene, Lindane, Methoxychlor, Oxamyl (Vydate), Pentachlorophenol, Picloram, Polychlorinated biphenyls, Simazine, Toxaphene, Dioxin, Silvex, Benzene, Carbon Tetrachloride, o-Dichlorobenzene, Para-Dichlorobenzene, 1,2-Dichloroethane, 1,1-Dichloroethylene, Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene, Dichloromethane, 1,2-

Dichloropropane, Ethylbenzene, Monochlorobenzene, 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene, 1,1,1-Trichloroethane, 1,1,2-Trichloroethane, Trichloroethylene, Vinyl Chloride, Styrene, Tetrachloroethylene, Toluene, Xylenes (total), Gross Alpha (minus Uranium & Radium 226), Radium 226 plus Radium 228, Sulfate, Chloroform, Bromodichloromethane, Chlorodibromomethane, Bromoform, Chlorobenzene, m-Dichlorobenzene, 1,1-Dichloropropene, 1,1-Dichloroethane, 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane, 1,2-Dichloropropane, Chloromethane, Bromomethane, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane, 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane, Chloroethane, 2,2-Dichloropropane, o-Chlorotoluene, p-Chlorotoluene, Bromobenzene, 1,3-Dichloropropene, Aldrin, Butachlor, Carbaryl, Dicamba, Dieldrin, 3-Hydroxycarbofuran, Methomyl, Metolachlor, Metribuzin, Propachlor.

#### **How to Read the Water Quality Data Table:**

The EPA and State Drinking Water Program establish the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The table shows the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to the regulatory limits. Substances not detected are not included in the table. The state requires monitoring of certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of this data may be older than one year. **MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)** – The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal)** – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**AL (Action Level)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level)** – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal)** – The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**RAA (Running Annual Average)** – An ongoing annual average calculation of data from the most recent four quarters.

**90<sup>th</sup> Percentile** – Represents the highest value found out of 90% of the samples taken in a representative group. If the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile is greater than the action level, it will trigger a treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**N/A** – Not applicable.

#### **Units in the Table:**

**ppm (parts per million) = mg/L (milligrams per liter)** – One ppm or one mg/L corresponds to 1 gallon of water in 1,000,000 gallons of water.

**ppb (parts per billion)** – One ppb corresponds to 1 gallon of water in 1,000,000,000 gallons of water.

**pCi/L (Picocuries per liter)** – Radioactivity concentration unit.  
**ug/L (micrograms per liter)** – Measurement of radioactivity.

#### **Norfolk's Drinking Water Notes:**

EPA REGULATIONS REQUIRED A CROSS CONNECTION SURVEY TO BE CONDUCTED EVERY 5 YEARS.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.CI.NORFOLK.NE.US](http://WWW.CI.NORFOLK.NE.US) TO COMPLETE THE CROSS CONNECTION SURVEY.

Microbiological	Highest No. of Positive Samples	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source Of Contamination	Violations Present
COLIFORM (TCR)	In the month of June, 2 sample(s) were positive	MCL: Systems that Collect Less Than 40 Samples per Month - No more than 1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment	Yes

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Likely Source Of Contamination
COPPER, FREE	2011 - 2013	0.309	0.00564 - 0.414	ppm	1.3	0	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing.
LEAD	2011 - 2013	2.97	1.2 - 4.36	ppb	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing.

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source Of Contamination
ARSENIC	05/06/2013	9.05	7.19 - 9.05	ppb	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
BARIUM	01/13/2014	0.18	0.18	ppm	2	2	Discharge from drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
CHROMIUM	01/10/2011	1.65	1.65	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
FLUORIDE	01/13/2014	0.338	0.338	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; Fertilizer discharge.
SELENIUM	01/10/2011	25.4	25.4	ppb	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits.

Disinfection Byproducts	Monitoring Period	Highest RAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source Of Contamination
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	7/1/2013 - 6/30/2014	17.25	16.1 - 18.4	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHM	7/1/2013 - 6/30/2014	39.15	22.5 - 55.8	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source Of Contamination
COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228)	08/20/2012	1.5	1.5	pCi/L	5	5	Erosion of natural deposits.
GROSS ALPHA, INCLUDING RADON & U	08/20/2012	7.3	7.3	pCi/L	15	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
RADIUM -226	08/20/2012	0.4	0.4	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits.
RADIUM -228	08/20/2012	1.1	1.1	pCi/L	5	5	Erosion of natural deposits.

Unregulated Water Quality Data	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	Secondary MCL
NICKEL	07/16/2012	0.00288	0.00207 - 0.00288	mg/L	0.1
SULFATE	07/16/2012	148	93.2 - 148	mg/L	250

The Hardness of Water in Norfolk is 19.4 Grains or 330 PPM. The pH of Water in Norfolk is 7.76

During the 2014 calendar year, we had the below noted violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

Type	Category	Analyte	Compliance Period
MCL (TCR), MONTHLY	MCL	COLIFORM (TCR)	06/01/2014 - 06/30/2014

The City Of Norfolk has taken the following actions to return to compliance with the Nebraska Safe Drinking Water Act: The City of Norfolk took repeat samples at the 2 sites that tested positive and also samples were obtained from water taps upstream and downstream of the original test sites. Samples were also taken at both Water Treatment Plants. All of these samples tested negative for coliform presence and subsequent regular monthly sampling has also come back negative. There were no harmful bacteria detected in the original coliform positive samples.

**Additional Required Health Effects Language:**

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.